

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Without prejudice, this listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1-7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method for starting an engine of a vehicle, comprising:

a checking ~~arrangement to check~~, in the event of a starting command, ~~as to~~ whether the vehicle is stationary;

if the vehicle is stationary, activating at least one vehicle brake;

after the activation of the vehicle brake, authorizing a starting of the engine;

if the vehicle is not stationary, authorizing a starting of the engine without a brake intervention; and

automatically starting the engine after the starting of the engine is authorized.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

if the vehicle is stationary, releasing the at least one vehicle brake after an engine startup.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

in the event a starting authorization is not present within a predefined time period following an existence of one of the starting command and a starting authorization request associated therewith, excluding an automatic start of the engine.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the starting is authorized- only if a determination is made that a drive system of the vehicle is disengaged from the engine.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the starting is authorized only if a determination is made that a clutch of the vehicle is actuated.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:
if the vehicle is stationary, releasing the at least one vehicle brake after an engine startup; and
automatically starting the engine after the starting of the engine is authorized.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the starting is authorized only if a determination is made that a drive system of the vehicle is disengaged from the engine.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the starting is authorized only if a determination is made that a clutch of the vehicle is actuated.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:
if the vehicle is stationary, releasing the at least one vehicle brake after an engine startup; and
in the event a starting authorization is not present within a predefined time period following an existence of one of the starting command and a starting authorization request associated therewith, excluding an automatic start of the engine.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the starting is authorized only if a determination is made that a drive system of the vehicle is disengaged from the engine.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the starting is authorized only if a determination is made that a clutch of the vehicle is actuated.

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22. (Canceled).